

## Message Text

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67

ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 FEA-01

ACDA-05 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01

ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-11

JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-03 OMB-01

PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAL-01 /148 W

----- 116422

R 121747Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7211

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 04241

USUN FOR LOS DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, PFOR, GW

SUBJECT: LOS: UP-COMING LOS CONFERENCE SESSION

REF: STATE 054588

1. DURING MEETING MARCH 10 WITH RUHFUS OF FONOFF  
(STANDING IN FOR POLITICAL DIRECTOR VAN WELL) ON OTHER  
MATTERS, MINISTER RAISED SUBJECT OF LOS CON-  
FERENCE SESSION SCHEDULED TO BEGIN MARCH 15.

2. IN VIEW OF CLOSE COORDINATION BETWEEN US AND FRG  
LOS EXPERTS DURING VISITS AND INTERSESSIONAL MEETINGS,  
EMBASSY BELIEVED FRG FONOFF AND LOS EXPERTS ARE  
FULLY AWARE THAT TIME FOR SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS HAS  
COME. MINISTER THEREFORE CAST POINTS CONTAINED  
REFTEL IN

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TERMS OF HOPE THAT FRG GOVERNMENT WOULD HELP TO

PERSUADE OTHER PARTICIPANTS AT SESSION THAT TIME HAS  
COME TO SHIFT FROM TACTICAL BARGAINING POSITIONS TO  
BASIC NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOAL OF ACHIEVING WIDELY  
ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISES ON OUTSTANDING ISSUES.

3. RUHFUS STATED THAT AMBASSADOR KNOKE, HEAD OF LOS  
TASK FORCE WITHIN FONOFF AND DE FACTO HEAD OF FRG  
DELEGATION TO CONFERENCE, WAS AT THE TIME OF THE MEETING  
BRIEFING THE FEDERAL CABINET ON LOS MATTERS.  
RUHFUS STATED THAT BASICALLY, OF COURSE, AS DISADVAN-  
TAGED STATE, FRG EXPECTED LOS CONVENTION TO HAVE  
SUBSTANTIAL DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON CERTAIN FRG INTERESTS.  
WHEN MINISTER OPINED THAT EVEN SUCH AN AGREEMENT WAS  
BETTER FOR FRG THAN CHAOS AND ANARCHY, RUHFUS GRUDGINGLY  
AGREED.

4. IN REACTION TO THE US REQUEST, RUHFUS STATED THAT  
THE FRG WOULD APPRECIATE US SUPPORT IN SEEKING BACKING  
OF CANADA, NORWAY AND OTHER SIMILAR STATES IN CONNECTION  
WITH FRG'S PROBLEMS VIS-A-VIS THIRD WORLD. SOME OF

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 04241

THESE STATES WERE, FOR REASONS OF SELF-INTEREST, COOPERATING WITH THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES IN MAKING EXCESSIVE DEMANDS. (COMMENT: AFTER SEEKING TO DETERMINE WITH FONOFF REP AT WORKING LEVEL MEANING OF THIS RUHFUS COMMENT WE BELIEVE THAT RUHFUS WAS SEEKING US SUPPORT FOR FRG EFFORTS TO URGE MODERATION ON, FOR EXAMPLE, CANADA IN CONNECTION WITH ITS EXCESSIVE POSITIONS ON THE ECONOMIC ZONE, MARINE POLLUTION AND THE CONTINENTAL SHELF, AND ON NORWAY WITH REFERENCE TO ITS POSITION ON THE SEA-BED REGIME.)

5. RUHFUS MENTIONED THAT THE FRG HAD AT ONE TIME CONSIDERED SEEKING TO MOBILIZE LAND-LOCKED AND K SHELF-LOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO CREATE LEVERAGE TO HELP OFFSET FRG DISADVANTAGEOUS POSITION. FRG HAD DELIBERATELY DECIDED TO ABSTAIN FROM DOING SO. HE SAID THAT THE FRG CABINET BELIEVES THAT THE FRG ITSELF HAD NOT SUFFICIENTLY WELL REPRESENTED ITS NATIONAL INTERESTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE LOS CONFERENCE. CONFIDENTIAL

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6. RUHFUS CONCLUDED BY STATING THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHARED THE USG VIEW THAT TIME FOR THE CONFERENCE WAS RUNNING OUT. IT TOO WISHES TO SEE THE CONFERENCE COME TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION.

7. COMMENT: AT WORKING LEVEL, FONOFF REPRESENTATIVES HAVE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE BETTER US-FRG CONSULTATIONS SINCE THAN DURING THE GENEVA SESSION OF THE LOS CONFERENCE, PARTICULARLY ON SEA-BED REGIME WOULD CARRY OVER THROUGH AND AFTER THE UPCOMING SESSION. HILLENBRAND

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